

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 00804 011648Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

-----117313 011650Z /47

O 011550Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 940

S E C R E T JIDDA 0804

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: MASS, SA

SUBJ: PRESENTATION OF F-15 SALE TO CONGRESS

REF: STATE 25643

1. WE ARE PLEASED AND RELIEVED TO RECEIVE REFTEL. WE HAVE ASKED FOR AN IMMEDIATE APPOINTMENT WITH FAHD TO DELIVER MESSAGE. HOWEVER, HE IS AT DEDICATION OF KING KHALID CITY TODAY AND SAUDI WEEK-END MAY INTERFERE WITH APPOINTMENT TOMORROW.

2. IN ANY EVENT, WE SUGGEST THAT THE MESSAGE SHOULD POSSIBLY BE IN THE FORM OF A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE KING, MAKING BASICALLY THE SAME POINTS AS REFTEL PLUS THE FOLLOWING POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL POINTS:

A) THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS GOING TO EXERT EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL, ESPECIALLY SO IN VIEW OF NECESSITY OF OVERCOMING PRESENT CONGRESSIONAL HOSTILITY;  
B) THAT THE SUGGESTION OF A POSSIBLE DELAY WAS IN THE HOPE OF SECURING A MORE FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH TO SUBMIT THE PROPOSAL, BUT AFTER CONSIDERATION OF THE REACTION AS EXPRESSED BY THE CROWN PRINCE AND FOREIGN MINISTER, THE PRESIDENT IS PROCEEDING, RECOGNIZING AND RESPECTING SAUDI ARABIA'S CONCERN OVER ANY DELAY.

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3. OUR ANALYSIS AS PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TO YOU IS THAT THE SAUDIS HAVE CHOSEN TO MAKE THIS SALE A KEY INDICATOR OF THE STRENGTH OF US-SAG RELATIONS AND THE FACT THAT THE PRESIDENT IS ACCEDING TO SAUDI WISHES IN THE FACE OF LESS THAN FAVORABLE CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDE SHOULD BE USED TO BEST ADVANTAGE. THE LETTER FORM, WE THINK, WOULD TEND TO

EMPHASIZE THIS POINT.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MILITARY SALES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS, CAT-B  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978JIDDA00804  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X3  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** P850071-2533, N780002-0269  
**Format:** TEL  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 25643  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3445294  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESENTATION OF F-15 SALE TO CONGRESS  
**TAGS:** MASS, SA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/bd7108ce-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014